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I add, not so, the proposers, under pretence of reform, of that which, from its beginning, was an unprincipled violation of the Constitution, and a gross invasion of the nation's liberties.

To the Atheist, to talk of principles, must be to talk in an unknown tongue. According to his insane conceit, the conceit which makes him what he is, an effect to which alone an actual insanity is competent, there can be neither moral law nor morals. To be perfectly consistent, we ought, with the ass and the tiger, the owl and the vulture, and every other irrational animal, to obey only the appetite, or the instinct of the moment. These insanies, however, will reason, and they will plan for a future, as in their minds principle can have no place, so an imagined expediency must, of course be their guide; and to such men alone that blind guide belongs.

But, I own, I am surprised to meet with a "Christian Patriot," capable of perniciously adhering in conduct to the imagined expediency of a triennial Parliament, which is obviously contrary to the Constitution, and utterly incompatible with liberty and public right. You, my dear Sir, will know who reasons as follows. Under the gloomiest circumstances of the community, the "Christian Patriot" needs no exhortations to animate him to perseverance, no consolatory considerations to shield him from despair. The events of this life, whether they concern individuals, or affect nations, he knows are all directed by the Providence of a Being perfectly wise and perfectly benevolent. And in this struggle against impudent corruption, supported by fraud and power, through immediate success may surpass his expectation, he rests assured that the final issue of it will be favourable to the united cause of integrity and freedom. To himself, it is allotted to do his DUTY, and to endeavour, to the utmost of his power, to promote the welfare of his fellow-creatures, without too anxious an inquiry after the probable result of his exertions."

Between a friend, who thus reasons, and myself, there can be at the bottom but a very slight difference of opinion, which, slight, however, as matter of opinion it may be, yet leads to conse-

quences most widely different. The difference turns on this question—"What, in the work of Parliamentary Reform, is a "Christian Patriot's" DUTY?"—In his efforts towards bringing about that which is in the womb of time, will he rely on "the Providence of a being perfectly wise," or on his own short-sighted sagacity? If he "rest assured that the final issue of it will be favourable to integrity and freedom," must it not be as unnecessary as morally erroneous, as superfluous as puerile, to pursue the end by means which are hostile to both "integrity and freedom?"—How can the "Christian Patriot" think himself justified in actually proposing that, which, by being contrary to "freedom," is contrary to "integrity"; and which, moreover, while in use, was remarkably corrupt?—Is it possible for a "Christian Patriot" to imagine it can be expedient to pursue the end he has in view by means so truly unwise and immoral? Does not such conduct savour of distrust in GOD's Providence, of a doubt, as to the existence of a law of moral obligation? Or, of the impiety, and astonishing presumption, of fancying he can improve on that law, by submitting expediency for principle? Is it not, then, the "DUTY" of a "Christian Patriot," as it would be of a truly moral man of any religion, "to pursue Parliamentary Reform, as he ought to pursue any other object in life, that is, by keeping in the "straight and perspicuous line between right and wrong," leaving the "final issue" to the Providence of GOD? In the boundless region of politics, expediency hath surely a range sufficiently wide, in the infinity of matters necessarily indifferent, and therefore dependent on discretion, without encroaching on the "inviolability of principle!"

Anxious that you should seriously reflect on these observations,

I for the present remain, dear Sir,

Truly your friend and servant,

JOHN CARTWRIGHT.

(To be continued.)

#### RESOLUTIONS OF THE CATHOLIC AGGREGATE MEETING.

At an Aggregate Meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, held in Dublin, at the Chapel, in Clarendon street, on Saturday, the 11th June, 1814, the Honourable MARTIN FRENCH in the Chair:

Resolved, that Mr. HAY be requested to

\* Wyvill's Polit. Pap. VI. p. 232

continue to act as Secretary to the Catholics of Ireland.

Resolved, that the Catholic Board, appointed for the purpose of preparing our petitions to parliament, and in the formation of which the principle of Representation was studiously guarded against, and has been repeatedly disclaimed, was instituted with the direct intention to avoid giving just offence, or to fall within the prohibitions or penalties of any known Law of the Land, even in the most rigorous interpretation of such Law.

Resolved, That the Catholic Board was not elected, or in any manner constituted or appointed to represent the People of this Realm, or any number or description of People; neither did it, nor does it, assume or exercise authority of Representing of the People, or of any description of the People.

Resolved, That we therefore utterly deny that the Catholic Board is an unlawful assembly, either within the provisions of the convention act or otherwise; and especially as the convention act contains a saving provision in the words following, viz.—“Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall be construed, in any manner, to prevent or impede the undoubted right of his Majesty’s subjects of this realm, to petition his Majesty, or both houses, or either house of Parliament, for redress of any public or private grievance.”

Resolved, That in the acts of the Catholic Board, we recognize unwearied diligence, distinguished talent, and inviolate fidelity in the performance of its arduous duties. The Catholic People have found in it a firm legitimate organ of their opinions and feelings; their Rights have been advocated, and their wrongs proclaimed with truth and earnestness. The results have proved eminently beneficial; for, whilst the Friends of Religious Freedom have augmented in numbers, and triumphed in argument, the votaries of intolerance have been humbled, abashed, and nearly silenced. General calumnies against our moral principles have been exploded, and our opponents are now compelled to resort to the despicable substitute of personal defamation. Much has been done by the Catholic Board towards cheering and cementing the Catholic People—guiding them by constitutional principles; protecting them, in many instances, from local oppression;

checking magisterial delinquency, in others; warning them seasonably against the snares of insidious foes, and with a presiding spirit of benevolent patriotism, the wants of the native artisan and neglected manufacturer have been affectionately consulted, and their interests cherished with parental solicitude. The very existence of such a Board has frustrated the intrigues, and crushed the profane speculations of such as would traffic upon a venal misrepresentation of Catholic sentiments.

Its candour and publicity have baffled all unworthy attempts upon our honor and interests; ample freedom of discussion has proved our most effectual ally; eliciting the talents, upholding the virtues, and advancing the fame of our Country. Finally, the great cause of our rightful petitions has been judiciously placed upon the firm basis of universal good; the religious freedom of all mankind.

Resolved, That for these, and many other valuable services, rendered to Ireland, and to religious freedom we sincerely thank the members of the Catholic Board, and recommend them to the respect and gratitude of their Country.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant having thought proper to forbid the Meetings of said Board, at a moment when the Discussion of our Claims in Parliament is immediately to be expected, and when, of course, the important, and most necessary communications with our Noble and Honourable Advocates in both Houses, may, from day to day, be indispensably called for, such a prohibition is, by its nature and unavoidable consequences (whatever be the motives that dictated it,) calculated to embarrass and obstruct, in various ways, the success of our humble application to the Legislature, and to surround it with difficulties, not warranted by any circumstances that we can discover—and altogether adverse to the spirit of the British Constitution—difficulties which seem too likely to render the right and act of Petitioning for a Session inefficient, and, of consequence, and in effect, nugatory and of no value.

Resolved, That we are solemnly and deeply impressed with the conviction, that measures should be forthwith taken for causing our several petitions to be proceeded on, so as to ensure that

inquiry and effectual discussion in the present sessions, which the honour and interest of the Catholic Body imperiously require.

Resolved, That solemnly protesting against the unrelenting system of intolerance, which the Catholics of Ireland appear to be doomed, in this enlightened age, to endure, we are yet steadfastly determined to persevere in claiming our Emancipation; and, by our constancy in this just pursuit, and, by availing ourselves of all warrantable means for this purpose, to prove ourselves worthy of those equal Rights and Liberties, which we demand, and can never consent to forego.

Resolved, That a Subscription be immediately opened for defraying the Expenses attending our Petitions, and that DANIEL O'CONNELL, Esq. be requested to collect the same.

Resolved, That the most cordial and grateful thanks of the Catholics of Ireland are pre-eminently due, and hereby given to that incorruptible patriot, the Right Hon. JOHN PHILIP CURRAN, who has this day honoured our meeting by his presence; and with whose uniform public exertions in the cause of religious freedom, we have ever seen connected the fairest and proudest recollection of Catholics and Irishmen.

Resolved, That this meeting do adjourn until the 24th of June instant; to take into consideration the form of a petition to parliament, praying that the Catholics of Ireland may, during any further continuance of the penal and disabling laws, obtain the benefit of that principle of the Constitution, which gives to Aliens a Jury of one half Foreigners.

MARTIN FRENCH, Chairman.  
EDWARD HAY, Secretary.

*Daniel O'Connell, Esq. in the Chair:*

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Honourable MARTIN FRENCH, for his most proper and dignified conduct in the Chair.

DANIEL O'CONNELL, Chairman.  
EDWARD HAY, Secretary.

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RESOLUTIONS OF THE PARISH OF SAINT ANDREWS, HOLBORN, MONDAY JUNE 6, 1814.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, held pursuant to a Requisition signed by a number of respectable Inhabitants, to take into

consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament against the alteration intended in the present existing Corn Laws.

Mr. BALM, upper Church Warden, in the Chair.

The following Resolutions were entered into :

Resolved, That this Vestry has learned with surprize and indignation, that after the termination of a war unexampled in its duration, there appears to be an intention among the landholders to perpetuate for their own selfish interests, the privations which the country has borne with such extraordinary resignation.

That the inhabitants of this parish have in various capacities, and upon many occasions, raised their voices in opposition to a war, the origin of which they regarded as unjust in its principle as it was in its object undefinable, and if the natural reaction of immeasurable tyranny and ambition, has unexpectedly procured a termination of the contest unwarranted by the efforts of any resisting medium, they had flattered themselves, the universally pervading sense of the nations of Europe, commanding peace and repose, would be more especially felt in this country in the abundance and cheapness of every article of necessity and convenience.

That it is with the blush of shame this vestry witnesses the new outrages attempting on the people of England by an Oligarchy, of whom it has with too much truth been said, "that they are alike enemies to the King and People;" the multiplied disasters of the present reign, and the almost uninterrupted wars that have marked its progress, naturally engender every description of evil; contract, loan and job, has given birth to a gambling spirit, which has almost superseded the character of the legitimate British merchant; these polluted sources of gain have created a new class of desperate politicians, who, rioting in the public plunder, have no identity or interest with Englishmen, and it is apprehended, too many have taken advantage of its corruption to purchase seats in the Honourable the House of Commons, who are now agitating within its walls, measures, which shall in a fictitious garb, secure to them such exorbitant emoluments, which are consequent only upon a state of strife, such as exhausted Europe has declared shall cease.

That the oppressive duration of the war had advanced the price of the neces-